

HOUSE BILL 356

By Coley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 21, Part 4 and Title 71, Chapter 6, Part 2, relative to the funding of family violence shelters.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-21-401, is amended by designating subdivision (b)(1)(B) as (b)(1)(B)(i) and by adding the following new (b)(1)(B)(ii):

(ii) In addition to the court costs established in subdivision (b)(1)(B)(i) for the filing of a divorce, there is imposed a ten dollar (\$10.00) fee on all divorce cases filed, regardless of whether minor children are involved. The clerk shall transmit the fee to the commissioner of revenue in the manner prescribed by the department. The department of revenue shall deposit the money obtained from this fee into the fund to establish family violence shelters and shelter services created pursuant to § 71-6-201. The department of finance and administration shall use the revenue derived from this fee for the exclusive purpose of providing grants to:

(a) Family violence shelters and shelter services established by § 71-6-201; and

(b) The Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence for the purpose of raising awareness of domestic and sexual violence and to provide training and technical assistance on domestic and sexual violence to communities statewide.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it and shall apply to all petitions for divorce filed on or after such date.